## SCS ENGINEERS

December 27, 2018 File No. 25217156.00

Mr. Nathaniel Sievers Columbia Energy Center W8375 Murray Road Pardeeville, WI 53954

Subject:

**Groundwater Monitoring Statistical Method Certification** 

Columbia Dry Ash Disposal Facility – Module 4 (COL Mod 4), Pardeeville, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Sievers:

This letter documents the selection of a statistical method for evaluating data from the groundwater monitoring system at the Columbia Dry Ash Disposal Facility, Module 4, in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 257.93(f). The selected statistical method is appropriate for evaluating the groundwater monitoring data for the coal combustion residue (CCR) management area.

Groundwater monitoring data for the COL Mod 4 CCR unit will be evaluated in accordance with 40 CFR 257.93(f)(3), using a tolerance or prediction interval procedure, in which an interval for each constituent is established from the distribution of the background data and the level of each constituent in each compliance well is compared to the upper tolerance or prediction limit.

A narrative description of the selected statistical method is provided below.

## Groundwater Monitoring System Information

This groundwater monitoring system at the COL Mod 4 facility monitors a single existing CCR unit:

Columbia Dry Ash Disposal Facility – Module 4

The groundwater monitoring system consists of two upgradient and three downgradient monitoring wells.

## Narrative Description of Statistical Method

For evaluation of groundwater monitoring results under detection monitoring or assessment monitoring, statistical analysis will be conducted to evaluate whether or not there is a statistically significant increase (SSI) over background values for each required constituent. The statistical analysis will use a prediction interval approach as recommended for detection monitoring in the March 2009 United States Environmental Protection Agency Unified Guidance for Statistical Analysis of Groundwater Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities. The approach will meet the statistical method requirements of 40 CFR 257.93(g).

For the prediction interval evaluation, interwell or intrawell testing will be selected based on the considerations outlined in Chapter 6 of the Unified Guidance. Background data for each parameter will be analyzed to assess whether the data fit a normal distribution or can be transformed to fit a

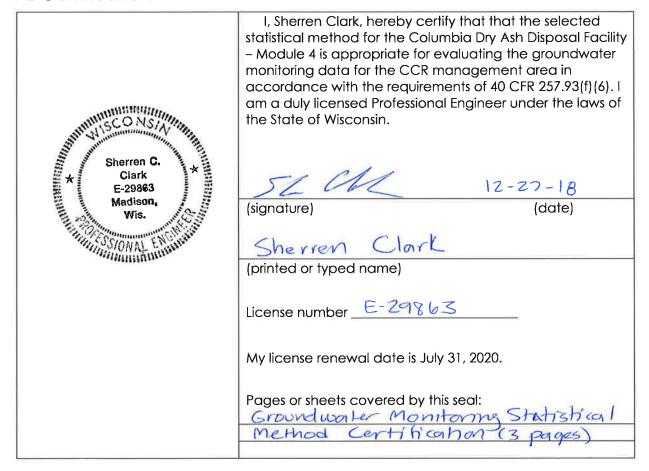


Mr. Nathaniel Sievers December 27, 2018 Page 2

normal distribution (e.g., lognormal). The calculation of the prediction limit(s) for each parameter will be appropriate for the distribution (parametric, parametric with transformed data, or non-parametric).

Monitoring results from the compliance wells will be compared to the upper prediction limits to evaluate whether an SSI over background has occurred. Assessment monitoring results will also be compared to the site-specific groundwater protection standards developed in accordance with 40 CFR 257.95(h).

## PE Certification



Mr. Nathaniel Sievers December 27, 2018 Page 3

Sincerely,

Sherren C. Clark, PE Project Director SCS Engineers Thomas J. Karwoski, PG Senior Project Manager SCS Engineers

MDB/Imh/TK/SC

cc: Jeff Maxted, Alliant Energy

Jerry Lokenvitz, Columbia Energy Center

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